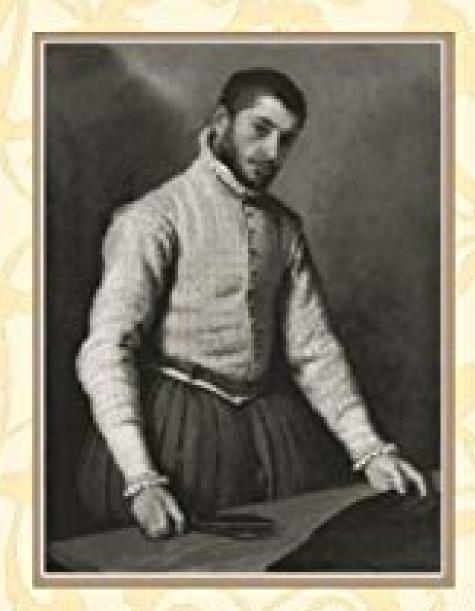
DRESSING RENAISSANCE FLORENCE



FAMILIES, FORTUNES, AND FINE CLOTHING

Carole Collier Frick

Dressing Renaissance Florence: Families, Fortunes, and Fine Clothing (The Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science)



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As portraits, private diaries, and estate inventories make clear, elite families of the Italian Renaissance were obsessed with fashion, investing as much as forty percent of their fortunes on clothing. Actually, the most elaborate outfits of the period could cost greater than a goodsized farm out in the Mugello. and what shades, fabrics, and design elements were popular. Further, as well as perhaps more fundamentally, she asks how exactly we know what we know about Renaissance style and appears to both Florence's sumptuary laws and regulations, which described what could be worn on the streets, and the depiction of contemporary clothing in Florentine art for the response. Frick begins with an in depth account of the sector itself?its business within the guild framework of the city, the specialized work done by man and female workers of differing social position, the components used and their sources, and the garments and accessories produced. From the artisans who designed and assembled the clothes to the families who amassed fantastic wardrobes, Frick's wide-ranging and innovative interdisciplinary background explores the social and political implications of clothes in Renaissance Italy's most style-conscious town. For Florence's elite, appearance and display were intimately bound up with self-identity. And she concludes with an evaluation of the clothes themselves: what pieces made up an outfit; how outfits differed for men, women, and children; However despite its prominence in both lifestyle and the economy, clothing has been largely overlooked in the wealthy historiography of Renaissance Italy. In Dressing Renaissance Florence, however, Carole Collier Frick supplies the first in-depth research of the Renaissance fashion industry, focusing on Florence, a city founded on cloth, a city of wool producers, finishers, and merchants, of silk dyers, brocade weavers, pearl dealers, and goldsmiths. She after that shows the way the driving pressure behind the development of the sector was the elite families of Florence, who, to be able to maintain their interpersonal standing and family honor, made continuous purchases of clothes? whether for everyday use or special events?for their own families and households. Dressing Renaissance Florence enables us to raised understand the public and cultural milieu of Renaissance Italy.



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Terrific Reference and incredibly entertaining. This is an excellent book(thesis). Additionally, there are appendices that have become useful -- lists of currency and measures, categories of clothiers, yardage required for several garments, glossaries of what yardage conditions meant, and an enormous bibliography and glossary of conditions. Needless to say, the painter Ghirlandaio features pretty prominently here. Embroidery can be covered. It isn't a physically large publication, clocking in at around 300pp, but it's very abundant with detail, and the composing is pleasant to learn. There is info on sumptuary legislation and "style police". I want it had more intimate descriptions of the way the clothes were made, layered and worn, cleaned, etc. but I may find this in other books about them. The vast sums of money dedicated to clothing itself was amazing. I recommend this book. It isn't about how to create Italianpersona clothing. Superbly detailed Frick's book is an invaluable resource for all those folks studying or authoring Quattrocento Florence. There exists a good balance of info and tale telling in this publication. I'm incredibly impressed. I think this reserve would make an outstanding addition to any Renaissance-lover's, or garbaholic's, bookshelf. I will like to add there are very few illustrations, and those included are dark and white renderings of paintings of the time, showing actual users of the elite families. Instead, it targets how Florentines of the Renaissance used clothing to create social statements. On the way, it examines some issues that garbmakers want hearing about (one desk lists various color combos found in gowns and linings), but mainly, it's about the sociology of style. Chapters: * Craftspeople and tailors (including how clothes-making guilds were arranged and the role ladies performed in these guilds)* Tailoring Family Honor (how Florentines seen honor and how they thought honor was expressed through clothes)* Family Fortunes in Clothing (just how much they spent, and a little bit about the secondhand clothes market)* The building of wedding gowns (you'll love learning how many views went into 1 and how totally political everything was)* Trousseaux for Marriage and Convent (how they differed, and lists of what went into each)And stuff about sumptuary rules, information regarding layers of clothes, types of dyes (and an examination of mourning clothes), types of fabric, and clothing as depicted in artwork -- and how art may have distorted how people really wore clothing. There are lists of content, including two Trousseaux, one for a wedding, one for a convent. There exists a lot of information about how style figured in the lives of the aristocracy in Renaissance Florence and about the guilds and craftspeople who produced the clothes and accessories. I'd certainly recommend this book to anybody wanting to immerse in the period -- and DEFINITELY for any Renaissance costumers out presently there. Very good reference materials for clothing of the period. There is details on materials and ornaments. Additionally, there are b/w repros of portraits, unfortunately not super well comprehensive, but there are some here I haven't seen before. I plan on reading this book over and over. Fascinating As somebody who is fascinated with Renaissance Florence this book is a treasure trove of information. The writer speaks of the sociological influence of their wardrobes and just how much they spent on them. This is an excellent book that brings to life the sartorial atmosphere of the time. The comprehensive lists of trousseau's were fascinating to learn. I loved all the familial stories that brought the era alive and understanding of the day to day effect of clothing and the importance placed on them. OUTSTANDING - Renaissance Florence learners, take note! It might not really be a poor idea to have some simple grounding in the period before scanning this, but it's written well enough that if any is required, it isn't much.



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